

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 03284.0061

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re National Phase of)	
PCT/JP2005/001284 International)	
Application of:)	Group Art Unit: Not Assigned
)	
Yasufumi SHIBATA et al.)	Examiner: Not Assigned
)	
Application No.: Not Assigned)	
)	
Filed: July 28, 2006)	Confirmation No.: Not Assigned
)	
For: CLATHRATE COMPOUNDS,)	
THERMOELECTRIC)	
CONVERSION ELEMENTS, AND)	
METHODS FOR PRODUCING)	
THE SAME)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed together with the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

English Abstracts of the non-English Japanese Patent Publication documents are enclosed.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English document XP002320444, an English language version of an International search report in a corresponding application citing this document and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 28, 2006

By: 

James W. Edmondson
Reg. No. 33,871

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known 10/587718		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	Not Assigned	
			Filing Date	July 28, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Yasufumi SHIBATA et al.	
			Art Unit	Not Assigned	
			Examiner Name	Not Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	03284.0061

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2002-118296	04/19/02	Yamada		Abstract
		JP 2001-048517	02/20/01	Eguchi		Abstract
		JP 2000-256093	09/19/00	Muneto		Abstract
		JP 2002-029728	01/29/02	Tanigaki		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Rudiger, F.W. Hermann et al., "Electronic structure of Si and Ge gold-doped clathrates," <i>Phys. Rev. B</i> , Vol. 60, No. 19 (15 November 1999)	
		Tanigaki, K. et al., "Germanium Clathrate with d-Transition Element," <i>Diffraction & Scattering</i> (XP-002320443)	
		Kawaguchi, T., et al., "Silicon Clathrate with an f-Electron System," <i>Phys. Rev. Letters</i> , Vol. 85, No. 15 (9 October 2000)	
		Yang Li, et al., "Structure and stability of Ba-Cu-Ge type-I clathrates," <i>J. Phys. Condens. Matter</i> 15 (2003) 5535-5542	
		Bryan, J.D., et al., "Superconductivity in germanium clathrate Ba ₈ Ga ₁₆ Ge ₃₀ ," <i>Phys. Rev. B</i> , Vol. 60, No. 5 (1 August 1999)	
		Bryan, J. D., et al. "Nonstoichiometry and chemical purity effects in thermoelectric Ba ₈ Ga ₁₆ Ge ₃₀ clathrate," <i>J. Applied Phys.</i> , Vol. 92, No. 12 (15 December 2002)	
		Sales, B.C., et al., "Structural, magnetic, thermal, and transport properties of X ₈ Ga ₁₆ Ge ₃₀ (X=Eu, Sr, Ba) single crystals," <i>Phys. Rev. B.</i> , Vol. 63, p. 245113	
		XP002320444, retrieved from URL: koho.osaka-cu.ac.jp/vuniv2002/materials2002/Lec-tani/manus-tanigaki/ivcluster.doc	No
		International Search Report	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.